

A Nest in a Pocket.

BY MARY BRADLEY.

A little bird went to and fro,
Once in the nesting season,
And sought for shelter high and low,
—Until, for some queer reason,
She flew into a pocket.

Where on a nail suspended,
The farmer's coat she chance to see,
And there her search was ended.
The granary was in a loft,
Where not a creature met her;
The coat had hollows deep and soft—
Could anything be better?
And where it hung how safe it was,
Without a breeze to rock it!
Come, little busy beak and claws,
Build quick inside the pocket!

Three speckled eggs soon warmly lay
Beneath the happy sifter;
Three little birds—oh, joy!—one day
Began to chirp and twitter.
Until—ah, can you guess the tale?
The farmer came one morning,
And took his coat down from the nail
Without a word of warning!

Poor little frightened mother!
Up from her nest she fluttered,
And straightway every gaping thing
Its wide-mouthed terror uttered.
The good man started back aghast;
But merry was his wonder
When in the pocket he at last
Found such unlooked-for plunder.

He put the coat back carefully:
"I guess I have another;
So don't you be afraid of me,
You bright-eyed little mother.
I know just how you feel, poor thing,
For I have youngsters, bless you!
There stop your foolish fluttering—
Nobody shall distress you."

Then merrily he ran away
To tell his wife about it,
How in his coat the nestling lay,
And he must do without it.
She laughed, and said she thought he
Could!

And so all unmolested,
The mother-bird and her brood
Safe in the pocket rested,
Till all the little wings were set
In proper flying feather,
And then there was a nest to let—
For off they flocked together.
The farmer keeps it still to show,
And says that he's the debtor;
His coat is none the worse, you know,
While he's a little better.

—St. Nicholas.

PARNELL'S PERSONAL APPEARANCE

How it has been misapprehended and exaggerated.

Nature has stamped on the person of this remarkable man the qualities of his mind and temperament. His face is singularly handsome, and at a first glance might even appear too delicate to be strong. The nose is long and thin and curved; the cheeks are pallid; the forehead perfectly round, and as striking as the forehead of the first Napoleon, and the eyes are dark and unfathomable. The passer by in the streets, taking a casual look at these beautifully chiselled features and at the air of perfect tranquillity, would be inclined to think that Mr. Parnell was a very handsome young man, who probably had graduated at West Point and would in due time die in a skirmish with the Indians. But a closer look would show the great possibilities beneath this face. The mouth, especially the under lip, speaks of a grip that never loosens; the eye, when it is fixed, tells of the indomitable will beneath, and the tranquillity of the expression is the tranquillity of the nature that wills and wins.

Similarly with his figure. It looks slight almost to frailty; but a glance will show that the bones are large, the hips broad and the walk firm; in fact, Mr. Parnell tramples the ground rather than walks. The hands are firm, and even the way they grasp a pencil has a significance. This picture of Parnell is very unlike the portraits which have been formed of him by the imagination of those who have never met him. When he was first in the storm and stress of the era of obstruction he used to be portrayed in the truthful pages of English comic journalism with a battered hat, a long upper lip, a shillelagh in his hand, a clay pipe in his caudex. Even to this day portraits after this fashion appear in the lower class journals that think the caricature of the Irish face the best of all possible jokes.

Parnell is passionately fond of Ireland; is happier and healthier on his soil than in any other part of the world, and is almost bigoted in the intensity of his patriotism. But he might easily be taken for a native of another country. Residence for the first years of his life in English schools has given him a strong English accent and an essentially English manner; and from his American mother he has got, in all probability, the healthy palor, the delicate chiselling, the impressive look, and the resolute eye that are typical of the children of the great republic. Such is the man in brief who to-day is perhaps the most potent personality in all the many nations and races of the earth.—Great Irish Struggle.

Mere-Physical Impressiveness.

The race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong. The weakest hand may touch off the cannon whose ball shall overtake the swiftest runner, miles away. It is the virtue of gunpowder, as Carlyle says, that it "makes all men alike tall." There still remain among some of our troops those caps of initiation bearskin which were once worn to intimidate a foe. The fierce headress of the drum major is the reductio ad absurdum, or extreme instance, of this childish method, which still survives among the Chinese, and may be seen in Japanese pictures. In an old military text book the Portuguese soldiers were ordered to attack their opponents "with ferocious countenances."

But civilization has set aside all this merely physical impressiveness and substituted invention. A morse, not a soldier, invented gunpowder. Savage strength is powerless against the needle gun and the unseen torpedo. This does not annihilate the value of physical health and strength, but it redeploys their use. The young man even in a military school has his bodily health trained not that he may grasp his opponent in his mighty arms and throw him to the earth, as formerly, but that he may have his head clear, his nerves in equilibrium, his action prompt.—T. W. H. in Harper's Bazar.

New York's Dyspepsia Victims.

Thousands of unfortunate New York men—the victims of dyspepsia—are almost always men—take liver pills as regularly as they take feed. They are such slaves to artificial aids to digestion that they imagine they will die if they miss one dose. Every year a long pro-

cession of men with ruined stomachs and acidulous dispositions winds its way out of the city and goes up to the water cures in the country, where they can live on hard Graham bread and cold water and make themselves decently miserable. Some people think that since there is so much dyspepsia there must be another long procession of broken down men rapidly moving to the cemeteries. But it is not so. It is a certain and well authenticated fact that dyspepsia never dies—of dyspepsia. They live on in more or less complete unhappiness, as a kind of scourge to themselves, and, unfortunately, to others for the digestive sins they have committed, until their disease develops into some other malady that may prove fatal, or they die of old age. Dyspepsia itself never kills anything but happiness. No doubt some of its victims have wished it did.—Boston Budget.

Gotham's Bank Presidents.

New York bank presidents are well paid. They have little to do and plenty of time to do it. A half dozen receive \$50,000 per year each for their very arduous labors. A score are paid \$25,000, and even the very small institutions pay the respectable old gentlemen who lend grace and elegance to their concerns \$12,000 and \$15,000 each.—New York Mail and Express.

Sprites of the Air at Play.

A gentleman who saw the effect of the recent winds on the snow in the country says that it was peculiar. It lifted the damp snow by the handful and rolled it over and over until it filled the fields with snow balls from the size of a man's fist to that of a man's head. It looked as though armies of boys had been pelting each other.—Lewiston Journal.

A Scare in India.

A scare has set in among the poorest citizens of Calcutta. Some ill disposed person has circulated the rumor that the Sirkar requires a large number of human heads for the jubilee celebration, and there is dismay in consequence among the low caste people, whose heads would be naturally the cheapest.—Cleveland Leader.

A Prosperous People.

On the island of St. George, Alaska, where 25,000 seals are annually taken, \$10,000 is divided among the natives each season. A first class share last season amounted to \$325. When it is taken into consideration that besides this each seal is rendered by each seal every native family on the island has a comfortable home, with fuel, lights, medical attendance and schooling free of charge, it will not seem an exaggeration to claim for these hyperborean states of life which it would be hard if not impossible to improve. With such advantages over his fellow Aleuts it is hardly to be wondered at that the seal slander should consider himself a trifle better than his poorer cousins. Great is the flutter in the social circles of Oomasska when a dusky hero of the bloody fields of St. George or St. Paul arrives on one of the company's steamers in search of a wife. In affairs of this kind the priest of the parish has great influence, and it has been whispered that these good men manage to hold back the choicest articles in the way of marriageable maidens until less desirable seals have been floated, thus preserving a healthy tone to the market.—Cor. San Francisco Chronicle.

Glasgow's Maternity Hospital.

"I spent a day in Glasgow," said a woman physician just returned from Europe, "for the express purpose of getting a peep into the Maternity hospital there. They are making experiments, you know, in raising babies by steam—babies prematurely born that would stand no chance of life under ordinary treatment. I went 250 miles out of my way for a look into that steam baby box, and I had it. There was one child under treatment when I got there, a tiny thing that seemed hardly human. It lay in a bed of cotton wool in the upper compartment of an incubator especially arranged for the purpose. There were hot water bottles in the lower part of the box and a thermometer hanging at the side to regulate the heat. There lay the baby in an atmosphere of steam. The physicians in charge said it was perceptibly growing and would probably live. That's nineteenth century civilization for you."—Kansas City Journal.

The Multitudes of London.

Yet how the multitudes thrive, and the crowd of Londoners increase! Taken as a whole, London must be a healthy place notwithstanding the dirt and squalor of the east end populace and the pestilential dens which are their homes among factories which send forth volumes of black, odorous smoke, and pour their filthy refuse into the turbid waters of the Thames, with its already sodden banks of mud and putrefaction accumulated during a hundred ages. It appears marvellous that such a crowd of a mass of human and material wretchedness, decay and general uncleanness, there should ever be a refreshing breath, a sweet scent, or a spotless thing, and yet how many here experience their sigh of uttermost relief and happiness. It is a passing fragrance that seems the sweetest of their lives—for ever to "dwell in memory's dream."—London Cor. San Francisco Chronicle.

A Kind Hearted Quartet.

There were four ladies once went fishing. They selected a very rainy day, and they had all their waterproof cloaks and head and feet covering. They were all by themselves when they took a boat and went to fish. It was in Maine. With true feminine earnestness they started off without anything to put the fish in. They had an elegant time until they caught a pickerel. When they caught the pickerel they didn't know what to do with it. It was alive and flopping. They had it in the bottom of the boat. They wondered why it didn't lie quiet. At last a happy and benign thought struck one of them. "Poor thing! It's getting all wet lying in the rain."

And she whipped off her waterproof and wrapped it up in it. Each of the four caught a pickerel, and each of the four wrapped it up in her waterproof and the rain wet them through to the skin, but they kept their fish dry all the same.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Cost of a City Election.

A letter in The New York Commercial Advertiser presents some very interesting, not to say startling, facts as to the use of money in elections in that city. According to the writer's estimate the amount of money involved in every city election reaches the enormous aggregate of \$1,500,000. One-third of this, or \$500,000, is actually paid out on election day—\$250,000 by the city as election expenses, and \$250,000 in the shape of "expenses" levied upon candidates. The remaining million is made up of \$750,000 paid in salaries for hangers on and "helpers," and \$250,000 paid to district leaders. In national elections the amounts are much higher.—Detroit Free Press.

A LESSON WITH A MORAL.

When Will Our Eyes be Opened to this Great National Calamity?

The year 1886 played sad havoc with many prominent men of our country. Many of them died without warning, passing away apparently in the full flush of life.

Others were sick but a comparatively short time. We turn to our files and are astonished to find that most of them died of apoplexy, of paralysis, of nervous prostration, of malignant blood humor, of Bright's disease, of heart disease, of kidney disease, of rheumatism or of pneumonia.

It is singular that most of our prominent men die of these disorders. Any journalist who watches the telegraph reports will be astonished at the number of prominent victims of these disorders.

Many statements have appeared in our paper with others to the effect that the diseases that carried off so many prominent men in 1886 are really one disease, taking different names according to the location of the fatal effects.

When a valuable horse perishes, it becomes the nine days' talk of the sporting world, and yet thousands of ordinary horses are dying every day, their aggregate loss is enormous, and yet their death creates no comment.

So it is with individuals. The cause of death of prominent men creates comment, especially when it can be shown that one unsuspected disease carries off most of them, and yet "vast numbers of ordinary men and women die before their time every year from the same cause."

It is said if the blood is kept free from uric acid, that heart disease, paralysis, nervous prostration, pneumonia, rheumatism, and many cases of consumption, would never be known. This uric acid, we are told, is the waste of the system, and it is the duty of the kidneys to remove this waste.

We are told that if the kidneys are maintained in perfect health, the uric, kidney, acid is kept out of the blood, and these sudden and universal diseases caused by uric acid will, in a large measure, disappear.

But how shall this be done? It is folly to treat effects. If there is any known way of getting at the cause, that way should be known to the public. We believe that Warner's safe cure of which so much has been written, and so much talked of by the public generally, and which can be obtained of dealers everywhere, is now recognized by impartial physicians and the public as the one specific for such diseases.

Because public attention has been directed to this great remedy by means of advertising, some persons have not believed in the remedy. We cannot see how Mr. Warner could immediately benefit the public in any other way, and his valuable specific should not be condemned because some nostrums have come before the public in the same way, any more than that all doctors should be condemned because so many of them are incompetent.

It is astonishing what good opinions you hear on every side of that great remedy, and public opinion thus based upon an actual experience, has all the weight and importance of absolute truth. At this time of the year, the uric acid in the blood invites pneumonia and rheumatism, and there is not a man who does not dread these monsters of disease; but he need have no fear of them, we are told, if he rid the blood of the uric acid cause. These words are strong, and may sound like an advertisement, and be rejected as such by unthinking people, but we believe they are the truth, and as such should be spoken by every truth-loving newspaper.

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ASSETS (Market Values) Jan. 1, 1887 \$40,826,264.15
LIABILITIES 4 per cent Reserve 37,974,809.21
SURPLUS (N. Y. Standard) 2,851,454.94
Policies Absolutely Non-Forfeitable After Second Year.

IN CASE OF LAPSE the Policy is CONTINUED IN FORCE as long as the value will pay for, or, if preferred, a Paid up Policy for its full value is issued in exchange.

CASH LOANS are made to the extent of 80 per cent of the reserve value where valid a signature of the Policies can be made as collateral security. LOSSES paid immediately upon completion and approval of proofs.

The Bloomfield Savings Institution.

ABSTRACT OF Annual Report to the Legislature, Showing the condition of the Bloomfield Savings Institution on the morning of January 1, 1887.

ASSETS.
Loans on Bond and Mortgage (First House) \$72,500.00
Interest due and accrued 2,315.52
Cash (State Bonds) (last audit value) 6,500.00
Cash on hand and in bank 8,361.81
\$89,667.33

LIABILITIES.
Due Depositors, including Interest 288,129.69
Surplus 88,474.94

Interest is credited to depositors on the first day of January and July, on all sums which have remained on deposit for the three months or six months then ending. And this interest stands to the credit of the depositor the same as principal. Their share of interest from those dates, as well as all new deposits made on or before the first business day in January, April, July and October.

J. W. POTTER, President,
THOS. C. DODD, Treasurer.

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Ladies' Hand-sewed Waukegan, \$4; reg. price \$5.50.
Ladies' Sewed Waukegan, \$3.50; reg. price \$4.50.
Ladies' French Kid Button, \$3.75; reg. price \$5.00.
Ladies' French Kid Button, \$3.25; reg. price \$4.50.

All other Goods at a proportionate reduction.

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50 Parlor Suits, all the latest styles of frames, upholstered in Plain Mohair
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50 Walnut Bedroom Suits, Marble Top, 4 pieces, regular price, \$65, re-
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lar price \$50, reduced to \$35. 50 Ash Bedroom Suits, regular price \$50, re-
duced to \$37.50. 50 Ash Bedroom Suits, regular price \$35, reduced to \$22.50.
50 Cherry Bedroom Suits, regular price \$40 to close them out only \$27.50.
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